

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re : Application of Currie et al.  
For : **EXPANDABLE TIRE BUILDING DRUM WITH  
ALTERNATING FIXED AND EXPANDABLE SEGMENTS,  
AND CONTOURS FOR SIDEWALL INSERTS**  
Serial No. :  
Filed : concurrently herewith  
Group Art Unit :  
Examiner :  
Our Docket No. : DN2001168DO1

April 20, 2004

**COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS**  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the referenced application as follows:

**In the Specification**

At page 16, please amend lines 1-4 as follows:

The biasing members 338 are disposed at axially spaced apart positions about the spindle 308, and are suitably in the form of rubber bands extending through corresponding holes 342a 343a and 342b 343b in each of the ramp elements 348.

**In the Drawings**

Cancel Figures 1C, 1D

Amend Figures 3B, 3C, 3D